THE PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT FOR PARAPROFESSIONALS

THE OFFICE OF TITLE I PROGRAM PLANNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY 609-943-4283

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- NCLB REQUIREMENTS
- RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT
- DESIGN ELEMENTS
- REPORTING DOCUMENTATION
- PORTFOLIO MAINTENANCE
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PRIOR TO NCLB

A// Title I paraprofessionals must have a secondary school diploma or its equivalent

(including those who are translators or who conduct parent involvement activities)

(effective January 8, 2002)

- Two years of study at an institution of higher education OR
- 2. An Associate's degree or higher OR
- Meet a rigorous standard of quality and can demonstrate, through formal state or local academic assessment

(hired AFTER January 8, 2002)

Must meet new qualifications to be hired

(hired BEFORE January 8, 2002)

Must meet new qualifications no later than January 8, 2006

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT & THE LEGISLATION

PURPOSE

- Assess subject knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics
- Assess ability to assist in instructing students in reading, writing and mathematics

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT & THE LEGISLATION

Does not have be a "paper and pencil test"

Must be valid and reliable

 Results must be documented (records must be kept)

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT FLEXIBILITY

Assessment could be written and/or performance-based

Assessment could be administered online

Could include training and performance assessment

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT RATIONALE

FOR CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PARAPROFESSIONALS

- 48 CREDITS IN 3 ½ YEARS IS NOT A PRACTICABLE EXPECTATION
- ONE-TIME FORMAL ASSESSMENT UNDER TIMED CONDITIONS MAY CREATE TEST ANXIETY

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT RATIONALE

ALLOWS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED PARAPROFESSIONALS TO

- DEMONSTRATE AND DOCUMENT "ON THE JOB" SKILLS AND CURRENT PRACTICES
- COMPLETE THE PROCESS DURING THE WORK YEAR
- INCORPORATE EXPERIENCE INTO AN ACADEMIC COMPONENT

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT DESIGN ELEMENTS

 FOCUS AREAS – Reading, writing and mathematics

 READING/WRITING – Includes a variety of reading and writing exercises

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT DESIGN ELEMENTS

- PROFESSIONAL READING Contributes to professional growth
 - > Includes books or journal articles on focus areas

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT –
 Contributes to professional growth

PERIODIC CRITICAL LOGS

- Documents professional growth
- May focus on newly integrated/adapted practices
- May be a self-assessment of current practices
- May discuss how readings and/or professional development supports current practices
- District has flexibility with submission dates

SELF-ASSESSMENT

- Assesses a new or refined instructional support activity
- Includes a description of the activity and the selfassessment rubric (Form E)
- Requirement: One (1) self-assessment for each content area (reading, writing and mathematics)
- > Final portfolio contains three (3) self-assessments

- PROFESSIONAL READING RECORDS (FORMS A-1, A-2, A-3)
 - Maintains a record of completed professional readings
 - Requirement: Three (3) readings per month (one per content area)
 - > One record for each content area
 - Final portfolio includes three records (reading-A1, writing-A2 and mathematics-A3)

- PROFESSIONAL READING SUMMARY & ANALYSIS (FORM B)
 - Completed for each professional reading
 - Documents completed readings
 - Incorporates the paraprofessional's summary and analysis of each reading
 - Final portfolio includes 30 Professional Reading Records (10 for reading, 10 for writing and 10 for mathematics)

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RECORD (FORM C)
 - Maintains a record of completed professional development activities
 - Requirement: 20 hours of professional development (18 content-specific hours and two non-content specific hours)

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION SUMMARY & ANALYSIS (FORM D)
 - Completed for each professional development activity
 - Documents participation in professional development activities

- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION SUMMARY & ANALYSIS (FORM D)
 - Incorporates the paraprofessional's summary and analysis of each activity
 - Final portfolio must contain completed summaries & analyses totaling 20 hours of professional development (18 content specific; 2 non-content specific)

PORTFOLIO REVIEW CONFERENCE

- Quarterly conference with professional mentor*
- Serves several purposes:
 - a. Discuss portfolio contents
 - b. Review paraprofessional's progress
 - Collaborate on suggestions or recommendations for professional improvement and growth, articles or training opportunities

^{*}Teachers who directly supervise paraprofessionals, school facilitators, highly qualified paraprofessionals, representatives from IHEs

SELF-ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (FORM E)

- PROCESS INDICATORS (FORM F)
 - Documents points earned for each assessment indicator
 - Includes dates for portfolio review conferences
 - Contains the principal's assurance that the paraprofessional has completed the assessment process

THE PARAPROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE/PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT PORTFOLIO MAINTENANCE

- EMPLOYING DISTRICT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RECORDKEEPING
- DISTRICT SHOULD ISSUE PARAPROFESSIONAL A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OR ANOTHER FORM OF DOCUMENTATION
- PARAPROFESSIONAL SHOULD MAINTAIN A COPY FOR HIS/HER PERSONAL RECORDS